India's position in the field of illiteracy

2398. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is India's position in the field of literacy as compared to other countries of the world;

(b) what has been total expenditure in 1989 and till 30th June, 1990 on (i) elementary (ii) secondary and (iii) university education, separately, in the country; and

(c) whether India would be also to achieve Universalisation of elementary education by 2000 A.D. as per action plan drawn up by the SAARC countries at their conference in New Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) A statement showing the percentage of illiterates in various countries of the world including India is attached. [*See* Appendix CLV, Annexure No. 86.]

(b) The total expenditure during 1989-90 and 1990-91 (upto 30th June, 1990) under Elementary and Secondary Education in the Central Sector is as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

	1989-90	1990-91 (Upto 30-6-90)
1. Elementary Education	15,993·50	423.50
2. Secondary Education	11,031.00	624·23

So far as the University Education is concerned, the University Grants Commission does not provide grants on year to year basis but provides grants on a five year plan basis and in respect of university education, it has incurred an expenditure of Rs. 57,966 lakhs for implementing Plan Schemes and Rs. 84,764.44 lakhs for non-plan schemes excluding engineering and technology education.

(c) The SAARC Experts Group Meeting on Literacy, post literacy and continuing education held in New Delhi on 15-18 June, 1990 did not make any specific recomendation to this effect. It may, however, be mentioned that the target for Universalisation of elementary education in this country, is that by 1995 all children upto 14 years of age must be given free and compulsory education.

Setting up of residential schools for weaker sections

2399. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up one Residential School in every state for the children of weaker sections of society for Education from class I to XII;

(b) if so, the criterion fixed for opening of such schools;

(c) whether such schools would be opened in every block and district headquarters; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in that matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Environmental pollution around the Union Carbide plant in Bhopal

2400. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that environment around the Union Carbide Plant in Bhopal